

Written response

1. Contents of written opinion

According to the written opinion (mailing date 23 March, 2004), the following are pointed out:

Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, and 11 in the concerned application are not novel or do not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 (JP 2002-149830 A Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.);

Claims 2 and 5 do not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 and Document 2 (JP 2000-503556 A Nokia);

Claim 3 is not novel or does not involve in an inventive step based on Document 3 (JP 2000-139844 A Kuroyanagi);

Claim 6 does not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 and Document 4 (JP 11-197121 A Matsushita Electric Co., Ltd.);

Claim 10 does not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 and Document 5 (JP 2001-103134 A Aoki);

Claims 12, 13, and 15 do not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 and Document 6 (JP 2002-24400 A Nonogawa Shoji); and

Claim 14 does not involve in an inventive step based on Document 1 and Document 7 (JP 2002-92179 A Yamauchi).

On the other hand, it is pointed out that claim 8 is not-obvious to a person skilled in

the art.

2. Contents of the invention in the concerned application

As described in the amended independent claim 1, the invention is 'a portable terminal device which can be carried by a user comprising: an input unit which can input life data including a user's food intake contents; a data storage unit which readably stores basic data including said life data; and a display unit which displays the data, and said input unit, when inputting said food intake contents, sets a pattern to suit the user's dietary habits and classifies fixed units for each food to enable selection thereof.'

The grounds for this amendment are based on the description in the original claim 8 from page 7 line 26 to page 8 line 24, and from page 20 line 29 to page 21 line 24 in the original description, that was considered not-obvious in the written opinion. There is no addition of new matter.

In the amended claim 8, since the main contents of the original claim 8 have been inserted into the amended claim 1, this has been revised to an expression which limits the words and phrases in the independent claim 1 on which claim 8 is dependent. There is no addition of new matter.

3. Comparison of the invention in the concerned application with the respective cited documents

In the invention, as described above, it is possible to previously set the pattern based on, for example the intake food based on the user's lifestyle habits, and food in special

conditions, to suit the user's dietary habits, and classify into fixed units for each food to enable selection. Here, as the pattern based on the lifestyle habits and special conditions, in the description it is disclosed, suggested or considered for example to classify the food into: groups of breakfast, lunch, and dinner; groups to suit the frequency, the possibility or the preference of intake based on the lifestyle habits; and groups under various special conditions such as for a wedding ceremony, in a hotel, during travel, and the like.

On the other hand, cited document 1 is a 'health management method, advice device and health management system'. In paragraph 0059 it is described that 'in the case where there is a response request for the contents of a meal, a health administration object person considers the meal menu of the day as a reply, and inputs it from the contents data input section 406 of the input section 410 (S805)'. However, there is no suggestion nor disclosure of the point of setting the pattern to suit the dietary habits, and classifying each food into the fixed unit for selection.

Cited document 2 is a 'method of receiving a measurement result indicating the blood glucose level of the patient and analyzing it'. There is no suggestion nor disclosure regarding the input of food.

Cited document 3 is a 'portable self-control device'. In paragraph 0005 there is disclosed 'an input means to input life data on meal uptake quantity etc.'. However there is no suggestion nor disclosure of the point of setting the pattern to suit the dietary habits, and classifying each food into the fixed unit for selection.

Cited document 4 is a 'health check system'. There is no suggestion nor disclosure regarding the input of food intake contents.

Cited document 5 discloses a 'multi-function mobile phone and measurement device using the mobile phone'. There is no suggestion nor disclosure of the point of inputting food intake contents.

Cited document 6 is a 'system for providing diet information'. In paragraph 0019, it is disclosed that 'the menu of **many types** of food is shown by a character string and a simple image'. However, there is no disclosure of the point of setting the pattern to suit the dietary habits, and classifying each food into the fixed unit to enable selection thereof.

Cited document 7 is a 'calorie control service system'. In paragraph 0018 it is disclosed that 'the information (for example, an intake food kind, or its amount,) of the user who inputted with the input means 4'. However, there is no suggestion nor disclosure of the point of setting the pattern to suit the dietary habits, and classifying each food into the fixed unit to enable selection thereof.

4. Conclusion

As described above, the invention in the concerned application according to the amended claim 1 structurally differs from the inventions described in the respective cited documents. Due to this difference, in the invention in the concerned application, by the setting the pattern to suit the user's dietary habits and selecting for each fixed unit, the user's load for the operation of inputting food is reduced, so that the user can continue with inputting food over a long period, thus enabling data accumulation and analysis over a long period, so as to accurately comprehend deviations or trends in lifestyle habits and dietary habits. Moreover, if patterns modified to suit; improvements in the user's dietary habits, the

user's preferences, or changes in surroundings are set, it is possible to input to suit the actual situation.

In view of such remarkable effects, it is believed that the invention in the concerned application according to the amended claim 1 is novel and involves an inventive step with respect to the cited documents. Furthermore, since the amended claim 1 is novel and involves an inventive step, it is believed that the dependent claims 2 to 15 are also novel and involve an inventive step.

Therefore, it is requested that the international preliminary examination report states that the invention is novel, involves an inventive step, and has industrial applicability.

The end.

Amendment

6. Contents of amendment

(1) The claim 1 is amended as follows:

1. A portable terminal device which can be carried by a user comprising: an input unit which can input life data including a user's food intake contents; a data storage unit which readably stores basic data including said life data; and a display unit which displays the data, and said input unit, when inputting said food intake contents, sets a pattern to suit the user's dietary habits and classifies fixed unites for each food to enable selection thereof.

(2) The claim 8 is amended as follows:

8. A portable terminal device according to any one of claim 1 through claim 7, wherein said input unit which inputs said food intake contents, previously sets a food intake pattern according to special conditions and a pattern based on lifestyle habits of breakfast, lunch, and dinner, so as to suit the user's dietary habits, and classifies said fixed units for each food into levels such as large quantity, medium quantity, and small quantity, to enable selection thereof.